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Spring 2002

WEATHER

Friday's forecast:



Cloudy
High: 49°
Low: 28°

Check page 2 for the weekend weather outlook.

INSIDE

NEWS

AQUATIC FLIES

Dr. Edwin Masteller shares his knowledge of aquatic flies with the world with the "Aquatic Flies Are Us" website. See page 2.

MARIJUANA

A recent study shows that student marijuana use is not as high as some think. See page 3.

SPORTS

Meet the man behind the Lion mask in a Q and A with Behrend mascot Brian Vallor.



PAGE 12

INDEX

- Behrend News... 1-3
- National News... 4-5
- Editorial... 6-7
- Calendar... 8
- Humor... 9
- Features... 10
- A&E... 11
- Sports... 12-14

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Blanchard moves provost search for Behrend into final phase

by Erin McCarty
news editor

Dr. Kendall A. Blanchard, the fourth and final provost candidate to visit Behrend, spoke at an open forum in the Smith Chapel on Tuesday.

Blanchard, who studied anthropology at Vanderbilt University and did postdoctoral work at Johns Hopkins University, most recently served as the president of Fort Lewis College. Prior to this position, he held various administrative positions at the University of Tennessee at Martin, Lamar University, and Emporia State University. He has also taught anthropology courses on several occasions.

Blanchard began his presentation by thanking the college for the reception he and his wife received and commenting on the beauty of the campus. He also joked that he had recently read a novel in which an English department chair at a western Pennsylvania state university vowed to kill a duck a day if his department didn't get its budget.

"I didn't see any ducks when I got here," Blanchard quipped, "so I was a little worried." Blanchard then launched into a list of what he perceived to be the greatest challenges currently facing colleges such as Behrend.

"America is facing a challenging yet uncertain future," he said. He predicted that the public would have increased interest in higher education because of this uncertain climate. He addressed the challenges of five different aspects of college life: academic, political, technological, economic, and cultural. Academically, colleges would have to focus on such issues as redefining the methodology of science, legitimizing the study and teaching of values, increasing diversity, and integrating

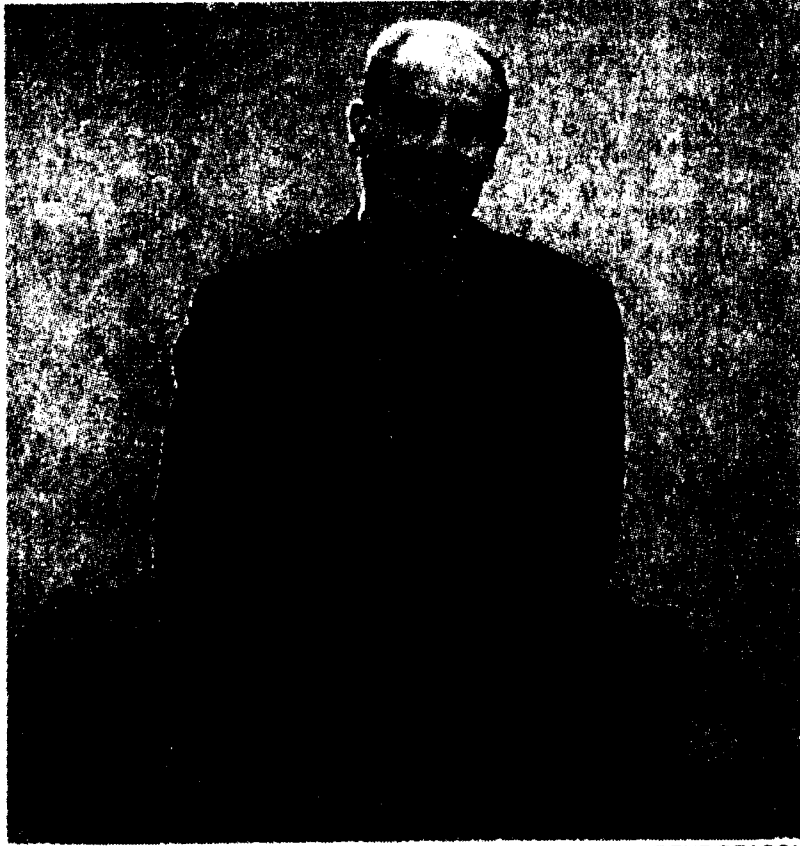


PHOTO BY ERIN MCCARTY / BEHREND BEACON

Dr. Kendall A. Blanchard was the final provost candidate to visit Behrend. His presentation occurred on Tuesday in the Smith Chapel.

technology. The trend toward generalized education would also need to be addressed.

"Political climates change with the frequency of Hollywood marriages," Blanchard said. Colleges have to deal with this changeable climate. He cited the conflict of tenure, higher education's sense of ownership, accountability, and quality as key concerns in this area. He described technology as the driving force behind change, for better or worse. The challenges in this area include humanizing technology, staying on the cutting edge, and working to assure that technology supports, rather than controls, the curriculum.

"From what I can see, Behrend is a

state-assisted school, and there may come a day when it is closer to being "state-encouraged," Blanchard said. Decreased funding from the state means a greater dependence upon tuition, which may lead to increased competition from private enterprise. The challenge is retaining students in such an atmosphere.

Finally, Blanchard discussed the diverse culture of America. He said that the widening gap between the courses taught in public schools and the prerequisites expected for college students is of concern, as is the friction that can occur between students of different cultures.

"The optimist in me says that Behrend's situation is more about

opportunities than problems," Blanchard said. He went on to list what he considered to be Behrend's strengths. They included: a healthy balance between theoretical and applied knowledge; a spectacular setting; a strong commitment to regional development; academic integrity; a good reputation; vitality; sound financial situation; wide breadth of offerings in degree programs; and a strong and healthy sense of what it is and what it wants to be.

"Behrend has the makings of a model 21st century institution," Blanchard said.

Blanchard started off the question and answer period by discussing what his role would be in regards to fundraising. He said that fundraising is increasingly important and that he would take an active role in bringing money into the college. He also indicated that he was impressed by the amount of money that Behrend has raised thus far.

Next, he turned to the issue of internationalization, saying that it involved sending students abroad and bringing students from other countries here. Although he said that ideally each undergraduate student should spend a year in a non-English speaking country, he realized that cost made this unrealistic. Thus, the challenge of sending students abroad is money; the challenge for bringing students in involves having a solid English as a Second Language program.

When asked about the balance between research and teaching, Blanchard replied that that teaching and scholarship go hand in hand and different institutions put different

PROVOST

continued on page 3

Career Fair presents new opportunities

by Tony D'Arcangelo
staff writer

If you've worried about your future as countless students have, the answer to your troubles may be closer than you think. On Feb. 27, from noon to 4 p.m. in the McGarvey Commons, Behrend will hold its first spring Job Fair in five years.

The Fair will host representatives from such companies as *Manitex*, the *Erie Oilers Hockey Club*, *Sandia National Laboratories*, *UMPC Health System*, *Adelphia Communications*, *Progressive Insurance*, and *Port Erie Plastics*. A complete list of all 41 companies is available on the website of the Penn State Behrend Career Development Center at <http://www.pesie.psu.edu/career/cdindex.htm>.

Behrend's last Spring Fair was only for internships, and not full-time jobs, according to Carrie Payne, assistant director of the Career Development Center.

"We're really excited about it," she said. "This is the first combined fair for all majors we've ever done in the spring."

Payne says the significance of having the fair in the spring is that students can begin searching and submitting resumes for internships and full-time jobs. She also said that companies are looking for students to take full-time jobs. But even if you're not ready to get a job yet, the Fair can benefit you.

Payne suggests that freshmen attend to get an idea of where they want their careers to go, and also to get to know some of the companies for future years. On the other hand, sophomores and juniors might want to get an internship and continue to build their resumes. Students of any year level and major are guaranteed admission.

continued on page 3

Fraternities show support for student athletes with banner

by Zoë Rose
staff writer

Last Saturday night, the Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Council presented the athletic department with a banner declaring their ongoing support for athletic events.

The banner, which was hung in the Junker Center at halftime during the men's basketball game, is a symbol of the hard work and effort that these organizations do to promote their positive image.

R.J. Mycka, in charge of organizing this project and a TKE brother, emphasized repeatedly how their dedication to the college as well as the community does not seem to be appreciated. He's frustrated that some students stereotype the Greeks as party-animals despite all of the positive things they do on campus.

"It is a shame that people judge and stereotype us for no reason," said Mycka. "A couple people can ruin it for the rest."

Brian Streeter, Behrend's athletic director, also agreed the Greeks contribute positively to the student life.

"A lot of our fraternities do a lot, a lot of extracurricular activities and a lot of fundraisers for outside groups," said Streeter. "Sometimes, they don't get credit for it."

Granted \$1,500 from Ken Miller, the Greeks decided to use the money to benefit the college somehow. They chose to spend \$800 on the department of athletics, which went to making the banner. Currently, it is positioned in the main basketball court in the Junker Center, but plans for purchasing a mov-

able sign are in the process for the soccer and baseball fields, the swimming pool area, and possibly the tennis courts.

The support theme again plays a critical goal as the Greeks are trying to encourage all the athletic programs at Behrend. Mycka stressed that the coaches love when they are there, naming men's basketball coach Dave Niland as one who is very enthusiastic about the Greek's support. Streeter is another who enjoys the support the Greeks show at games.

"They support our teams by being fans, by being fans that show great spirit and great sportsmanship- which is so valuable," said Streeter.

Down at the half, or in a tennis set, the crowd can often be a vital boost in getting the win. Support and cheers from teammates, parents, and friends from the sidelines are important to athletes. Their energy and focus are energized, as well as the feeling of representing the school, when they have a home crowd behind them.

Fraternities such as Tau Kappa Epsilon, Delta Chi, and Sigma Tau Gamma, to name a few, pride themselves with contributing to the campus.

The money they raise for causes such as the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation walk or the Second Harvest Food Bank is overseen because of the negative view that society stereotypes Greek organizations. With an uninformed college populous, the many positive and beneficial events that they participate in are shadowed by those dealing with the partying scene.

Overcoming obstacles, such as nega-

tive attention, is the focus of the Greek organizations. The frustration of feeling under-appreciated and not getting the proper respect is another obstacle

in the way.

Mycka related this situation to a metaphor on the football field.

"A player scored four touchdowns in

three quarters and had one drop during the last seconds of the game. Which play will you remember, the drop or the four touchdowns?"

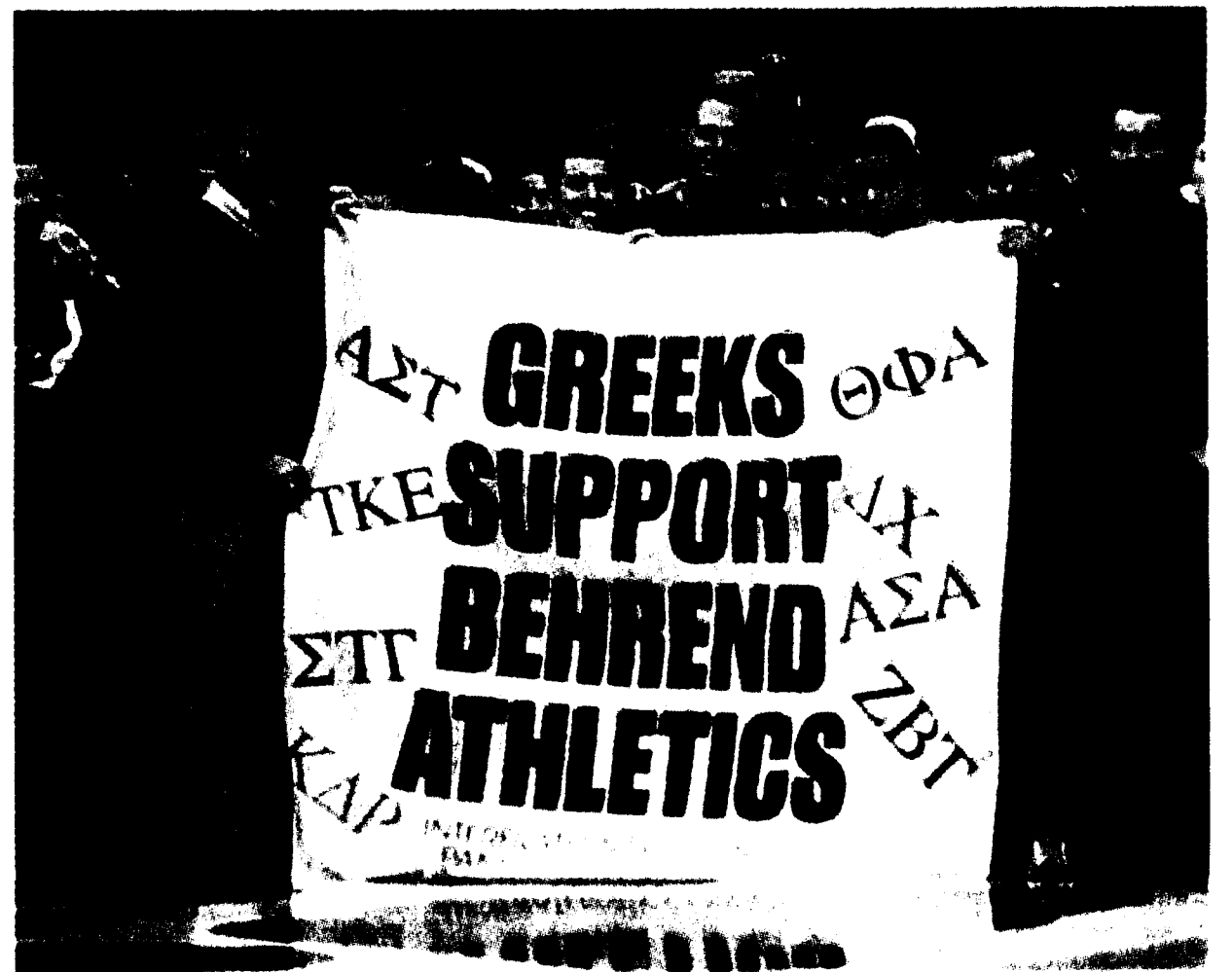


PHOTO BY MIKE BELLO / BEHREND BEACON

Members of fraternities cheer on Behrend athletes. Many Greeks say they are misunderstood on campus, and they are striving to improve their image with efforts such as this banner.